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United States Senate

March 1, 2007

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Ms. Paula Kerger CEO, Public Broadcasting System 2100 Crystal Drive Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Ms. Kerger:

I have heard from many of my constituents who are concerned that the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) has used public funds to support vulgar and objectionable films at the Sundance Film Festival, held January 18-28, 2007, in Park City, Utah. I share their concern.

As a recipient of taxpayer dollars, PBS has an obligation to use its funds in a responsible and appropriate manner. Funding for PBS, whether obtained through member station dues, private citizen donations, or from federal appropriations through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, is completely fungible. As such, there can be no guarantee that public funds have not in any way been used to support films considered obscene and offensive by a majority of Americans.

I request that PBS demonstrate greater accountability and discretion when supporting events such as the Sundance Film Festival. I would like your assurance that PBS will be more conscientious in the future. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Craig

United States Senator